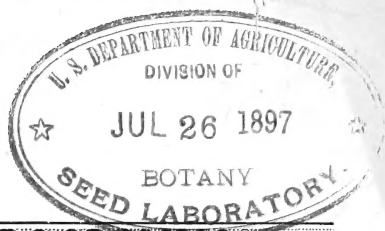


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PRICE LIST

OF

JAPAN PLUMS,

OFFERED BY

The Bellevue Nursery,

///

WM. F. BASSETT & SON,

HAMMONTON, N. J.

1892-3.



Monmouth Printing House, Little Silver, N. J.



THE BELLEVUE NURSERY

was established in 1864 to supply a local demand for strictly first class Trees and Plants. The trade has gradually enlarged and extended itself until now we ship our products all over the world, and we have a reputation second to none for quality of stock and honest, liberal dealing.

We ship annually thousands of plants to California, Oregon and the Western States and have customers in every state in the Union. We could not have got this trade unless we gave satisfaction to our customers.

Our Terms of sale and other information about ordering will be found on second page of cover in our General Catalogue, mailed with this circular.

THE BELLEVUE NURSERY.

Hammonton, N. J., Oct. 1st, 1892.



JAPAN PLUMS.

A few years ago when these plums were first brought from Japan there were few who had much confidence in their success here. It has not been by extensive advertising and booming that they have come to the front but merely by their great success and wonderful merit as a fruit eminently adapted to culture in nearly the whole range of our country. The reports from all over the United States are very favorable and while the Kelsey will not be successful north of Washington, the Abundance, Ogon and Burbank have been fully tested in the New England and Middle States.

F. L. B.

From Orchard and Garden, October, 1888. Page 191.

ABUNDANCE PLUM.

We hear so much about the enemies of the fruit grower causing failure and discouragement, that we experience a genuine pleasure in having an opportunity to speak of fruit growing from a more cheerful standpoint. If our friends feel gloomy at their failures, we can give them a little sunlight to dispel the gloom. Our motto, well known to our readers, is "good fruit and plenty of it," and while with the curculio, the black knot, unfertile blossoms and other drawbacks, it did certainly look, some years ago, as though we, in the enjoyment of plums should be restricted to very limited quantities; we now have no such fear. We have not only learned to master the curculio, but, better yet, have now varieties that need no guarding against the foe in order to secure a crop of fruit. With some of the best Chickasaw varieties and the Spaulding, good crops are secured annually without battling with the curculio, and in the Abundance we have a variety with but a single solitary enemy—the "small boy," or rather the big boy. The tree too is a "thing of beauty," both in growth and foliage, its habit upright and spreading; with large, deep green, smooth, glossy leaves thickly set, quite distinct from those of any other plum or fruit we have seen. The fruit is large, round but slightly pointed at the apex, slight suture, amber in color turning to bright cherry, and with a heavy white bloom. The flesh is a light straw color, exceedingly juicy and vinous, of sugary sweetness, yet sprightly and with a delightful aroma, rendering it when fully ripe, exquisitely luscious. The season of ripening is early—from the first to middle of August in northern New Jersey, a peculiarity of the variety is its early bearing, for although of exceptionally strong growth, with heavy foliage like the Kieffer and Le Conte pears, yet it comes into bearing as early as a peach tree. In fact trees two and three years old frequently load with fruit, being strung upon the limbs like ropes of onions (as may be seen in our illustration) and continue to bear in the same manner every year afterwards.

The only fault in the variety we have yet noted (the sting of the curculio apparently has no effect upon it beyond leaving a small mark or scar, caused by the puncture), is the one common with other plums, that of rotting when the trees are allowed to overbear. In this defect, however, it is by no means so pronounced as many of the popular sorts, and to judge from our experience with it in our test grounds for some years, we are sure that all who plant of it will be rewarded with plums in abundance.—J. T. L.

Judge Miller in Popular Gardening. June 1889. Page 202.

JAPAN PLUMS.

Botan was in bloom April 6th, and the leaves more advanced than any other Plum on my place except Kelsey. This had no blossom buds, the only twig with any on, I cut off unobserved for a friend for grafts. You may imagine my vexation at this. I now believe we may grow the Kelsey fruit some seasons, I have added five new Japanese Plums to my list this Spring.

Popular Gardening. May 1891. Page 157.

Plums.—Some of the new Russian and Japan Plums are very promising, as they seem to be much hardier in tree and fruit-bud than any of the older varieties in the European class. Besides the above, there are many other native plums, less widely tested, which are promising.

Popular Gardening. February 1891. Page 97.

JAPAN PLUMS IN IOWA.

A writer in *National Stockman* says: At the end of the house near where this is written, a tree of Kelsey, one of the best of the Japan varieties, was planted four years ago, and it has done well. It was an experiment, the position being chosen to shield it from the cold west winds and also give it the benefit of some warmth from the house. The appearance of the tree, wholly unlike Damson and some others, indicates that the new strain will be proof against the black knot, which is ruining the Damson, and the Morello cherries. The only hope of saving the cherry trees is to cut down and burn every Damson tree in the country, and every cherry tree that becomes affected.

Popular Gardening. December 1890. Page 60.

REMEDY FOR PLUM ROT.

All remedies for this trouble must be of a preventive nature. First select suitable soil a strong rich clay loam being best. Then manure liberally, give clean cultivation, and do not allow the trees to overbear. If these points are properly attended to there will be little cause for complaint of rot.

Orchard & Garden. March 1888. Page 49.

PLUMS A PLENTY.

Plum culture has not been a success with every grower in recent years, principally on account of the terrible work of the curculio, a most clumsy fellow generally, yet only too active when bent on the perpetuation of its own race. This insect has effectually prevented over production of plums, and also deprived the majority of home growers of their home supply. With our present knowledge, and a number of varieties of plums, which are practically curculio proof, to select from we see no reason why the amateur should give up in despair, or let the curculio have all its own way. Many of our native sorts will produce full crops in spite of all insects, and so will the newly introduced Japan plums, of which Ogon, Abundance and Kelsey have been tested quite extensively, and found of great merit. We have seen Ogon trees loaded down with ripe fruit, every specimen of which bore the scarcely visible traces of from three to five of the ominous crescent marks, proving to our satisfaction that the fruit is able to outgrow the curculio sting and to take care of itself.

The Ogon shown in fig. 1462 is a round plum, (the California growers, who describe it as oval or egg-shaped must have a different variety,) of good size, a bright golden yellow, fine, sweet, but rather dry flesh; excellent for canning; ripens here towards the end of July, tree a vigorous grower, and apparently hardy.

ABUNDANCE PLUM.

This is a remarkable fruit indeed. It is unlike any other plum. In growth it is so strong and handsome as to render it worthy of being planted as an ornamental tree—equaling in thrift and beauty, Kieffer pear which it even excels in early and profuse bearing.

It is exceedingly hardy. Its propensity for early bearing is such that it loads in the nursery row bending the limbs with the weight of fruit until they sometimes break and this is the case every year—the curculio having no effect upon it, the eggs failing to hatch and produce the destructive grub the same as with the Spaulding. We have seen even little one year old saplings, but two feet high, white with bloom and set heavily with large, fine plums.

The fruit is large, showy and beautiful. Amber, turning to a rich bright cherry color, with a decided white bloom, and highly perfumed. Flesh light yellow, exceedingly juicy and tender, and of a delicious sweetness impossible to describe. Stone small and parts readily from the flesh.—From J. T. Lovett Co's Catalogue.

How to Plant an Orchard of Plums that will Pay \$800 per Acre the Third Year.

Land that is somewhat late in starting in the Spring and free from late frosts should be selected and if it be rather light the orchard will be more certain to *bear young*. This point is not absolutely essential however as the Japan varieties will do equally well on heavy land but are sometimes a year later in coming into bearing. The land should be thoroughly prepared as for planting corn after which the trees may be set either in November or any time after that date until growth starts in the Spring. Possibly the best time of all is the latter part of March. The best distance to plant the trees is 10 feet apart in the rows and the rows 15 feet apart.

In planting the trees should be put about two inches below the bud. At the time of planting cut the trees well back, leaving nothing but a stick. For the first three years the trees may be left to shape themselves mostly, merely removing any stray shoots that will mar the beauty or endanger the strength of the tree when loaded with fruit. Some hoed crops may be cultivated between the rows for two years after which give them the whole ground.

To prevent overbearing the fruit should be thinned when about the size of a cherry. This will give the remaining crop a chance to develop into fine large plums and the number of bushels will not be lessened by the thinning. From the various reports throughout the country a crop can be looked for the third year after planting and often the second year. Two hundred bushels to the acre is not an unusual yield and these will readily command \$5.00 per bushel in market.

HAMMONTON, N. J., Aug. 20, 1892.

WM. F. BASSETT & SON.

Seen

DEAR SIRs.—Having witnessed the Abundance Plum in bearing the past season, at your nursery ~~and seed farm~~, and ~~after~~ seeing such a wonderful profusion of fine fruit, and that too with trees under adverse circumstances, coupled with the fact that it is proof against the ravages of the plum curculio, I am convinced that it is a great acquisition to the plum family. Its flavor being very delicate, with its size and beautiful appearance, will doubtless win for itself many friends among plum growers.

Yours Truly,

S. T. ELLIS.

I should say that the Abundance Plum produced very abundantly of good fruit, and that the little "Turk" was at a discount when making an attack on this variety for the purpose of propagating its species.

Yours Truly,

W. A. ELVINS.

HAMMONTON, N. J., Aug. 26, 1892.

W. F. BASSETT & SON.

Gentlemen.—The Abundance Plum that I saw on your place this season was the heaviest set of really good fruit that I ever saw.

The Abundance surpasses any fruit that I have ever eaten in the Plum line.

I am, Yours Truly, GEO. W. ELVINS.

I think the Abundance Plum a good thing and will revolutionize Plum culture.

WM. B. POTTER, M. D.

HAMMONTON, N. J., August 23, 1892.

WILLIAM F. BASSETT & SON.

Dear Sirs.—I called at your home to examine your plnm, known as the Abundance, of which so much has been said in praise. It was unfortunate that I did not see it sooner, as most of the fruit had been taken from the trees. What remained was of good size and fine flavor, and of its being a prolific bearer, the broken branches and props that surrounded the trees gave satisfactory proof that it was all that you claimed for it. If you have not already disposed of your stock I shall want a small order for home use.

Very Truly Yours,

THOMAS ROGERS.

HAMMONTON, N. J., August 17, 1892.

WM. F. BASSETT & SON.

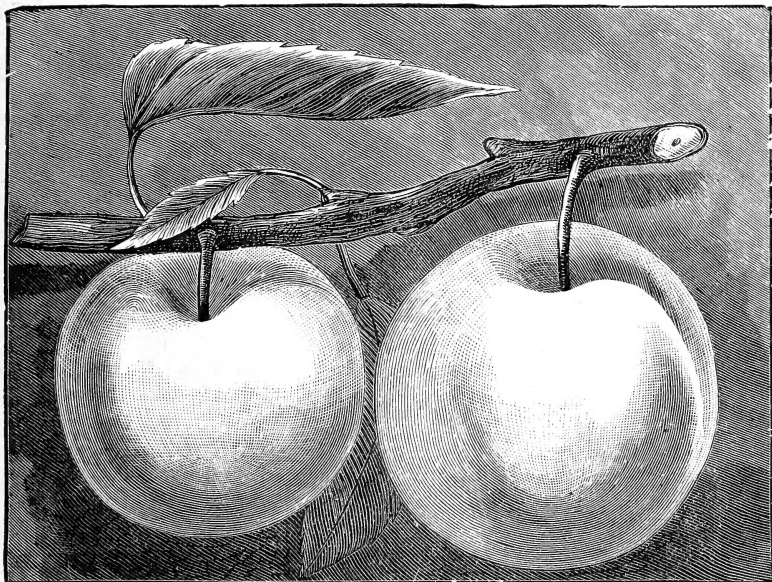
Dear Sirs.—My opinion of the Abundance Plum, as far as I have seen of it, is that it is the best I have ever seen grown in New Jersey. There is a question in my mind about the right way to prune the trees; to prune as we do our Peach trees in this section of country has proved to me to be wrong. I think the tree must be allowed to grow natural or nearly so, if the limbs are inclined to run out too long cut them back lightly.

Yours Truly,

JOHN SCULLIN.

VARIETIES.

Abundance.—A vigorous sturdy grower making a beautiful, shapely tree. Fruit large (2 inches in diameter) borne in the greatest abundance, of a deep red color, with a beautiful bloom: Flesh yellow, rich, melting and juicy with a delightful fragrance. This variety has now been fully tested for market and home use and is without exception the finest plum that can be grown in the Middle and New England States, where it ripens its fruit in the latter part of July. It is perfectly hardy has no black knot and bears full crops in spite of the curculio. The plums although stung are not affected, the eggs failing to hatch (not one sting in one hundred ever produce, a worm). This point is of the utmost importance as in many places the curculio are so plentiful that the ordinary European plums *never bear a crop*, all dropping off, riddled by curculio. Price, 2 to 3 ft., 25 cts. each; \$2.00 per doz; \$15.00 per 100; 3 to 4 ft., 35 cts. each; \$3.00 per doz; 4 to 5 ft., 50 cts. each; \$4.00 per doz.



OGON PLUM. Fig. 1462.

Ogon.—Fruit large, round and of a clear amber yellow, ripening a little later than Abundance. While not so juicy as the other varieties, the fruit is of such a sugary sweetness that it is of great value both for canning and eating fresh from the tree.

The Ogon is the heaviest bearer of all the Japanese plums and will take a high rank as a market variety. 30 cts. each; \$3.00 per doz; \$20.00 per 100.

Kelsey.—Without exception the largest of the Japan plums, and unequalled in quality; a heavy and early bearer. It will not ripen its fruit north of Washington, D. C., with any certainty and the tree is not fully hardy at the North. It is particularly the plum for the South where it is a grand success. Plums weighing 6 ounces are often produced. 30 cts. each; \$3.00 per doz.

Burbank.—A new variety from California of great promise. The fruit is very large, very dark red or purple. It has not yet fruited here, but it is reported as fully hardy in New York state, where it is being largely planted for market. 30 cts. each; \$3.00 per doz.

Satsuma.—A deep blood red plum with flesh of the same color. One of the finest varieties for the South and one that may succeed as far North as New York. Not yet fruited with us. 35 cts. each; \$3.50 per doz.



ABUNDANCE PLUMS.

(From a Photograph).